

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending.

The Examiner and his Supervisor are thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the December 16, 2004 interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The office action rejects claims 1-14 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-14 of co-pending applications 10/614,860, 10/614,861, 10/614,862, 10/614,863 and 10/614,864. Because all of these applications are pending, a terminal disclaimer is not yet appropriate. It is submitted that if these applications become allowable, one should be allowed to issue without a terminal disclaimer, and it may then be appropriate for terminal disclaimers in the remaining applications.

The office action rejects claim 13 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claim 13 has been amended as suggested. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

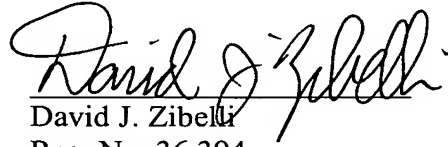
The office action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 USC 102(e) over O'Brien (US Pat. 5,247,638). As discussed in the interview, O'Brien does not disclose or suggest a number of said paths linking said plurality of control units and said cache unit equals a number of said plurality of control units, as recited in claim 1. In the interview, the Examiner indicated that element 103-1 (or elements within 103-1) in Fig. 1 of O'Brien correspond to the recited control unit. During the interview, it was pointed out that two lines 104 connect the cache 113 to element 103-1. As further pointed out at the interview, even if the control and drive circuits 121 is considered to correspond to the recited control units, O'Brien would still not disclose a number of said paths linking said plurality of control units and said cache unit equals a number of said plurality of control units as required by claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-13 are not anticipated by O'Brien.

For at least the above reasons, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to
Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 18, 2005


David J. Zibelli
Reg. No. 36,394

KENYON & KENYON
1500 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel: (202) 220-4210
Fax: (202) 220-4201
544714_DC01